

1 program pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section  
2 504.”.

3 **SEC. 8204. INSECT AND DISEASE INFESTATION.**

4 Title VI of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of  
5 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591 et seq.) is amended by adding at  
6 the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 602. DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.**

8 “(a) DEFINITION OF DECLINING FOREST  
9 HEALTH.—In this section, the term ‘declining forest  
10 health’ means a forest that is experiencing—

11 “(1) substantially increased tree mortality due  
12 to insect or disease infestation; or

13 “(2) dieback due to infestation or defoliation by  
14 insects or disease.

15 “(b) DESIGNATION OF TREATMENT AREAS.—

16 “(1) INITIAL AREAS.—Not later than 60 days  
17 after the date of enactment of the Agricultural Act  
18 of 2014, the Secretary shall, if requested by the  
19 Governor of the State, designate as part of an insect  
20 and disease treatment program 1 or more landscape-  
21 scale areas, such as subwatersheds (sixth-level hy-  
22 drologic units, according to the System of Hydro-  
23 logic Unit Codes of the United States Geological  
24 Survey), in at least 1 national forest in each State  
25 that is experiencing an insect or disease epidemic.

1           “(2) ADDITIONAL AREAS.—After the end of the  
2       60-day period described in paragraph (1), the Sec-  
3       retary may designate additional landscape-scale  
4       areas under this section as needed to address insect  
5       or disease threats.

6       “(c) REQUIREMENTS.—To be designated a land-  
7       scape-scale area under subsection (b), the area shall be—

8           “(1) experiencing declining forest health, based  
9       on annual forest health surveys conducted by the  
10      Secretary;

11          “(2) at risk of experiencing substantially in-  
12      creased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to  
13      insect or disease infestation, based on the most re-  
14      cent National Insect and Disease Risk Map pub-  
15      lished by the Forest Service; or

16          “(3) in an area in which the risk of hazard  
17      trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastruc-  
18      ture, health, or safety.

19      “(d) TREATMENT OF AREAS.—

20          “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may carry  
21      out priority projects on Federal land in the areas  
22      designated under subsection (b) to reduce the risk or  
23      extent of, or increase the resilience to, insect or dis-  
24      ease infestation in the areas.

1           “(2) AUTHORITY.—Any project under para-  
2 graph (1) for which a public notice to initiate  
3 scoping is issued on or before September 30, 2018,  
4 may be carried out in accordance with subsections  
5 (b), (c), and (d) of section 102, and sections 104,  
6 105, and 106.

7           “(3) EFFECT.—Projects carried out under this  
8 subsection shall be considered authorized hazardous  
9 fuel reduction projects for purposes of the authori-  
10 ties described in paragraph (2).

11          “(4) REPORT.—

12           “(A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with  
13 the schedule described in subparagraph (B), the  
14 Secretary shall issue 2 reports on actions taken  
15 to carry out this subsection, including—

16           “(i) an evaluation of the progress to-  
17 wards project goals; and

18           “(ii) recommendations for modifica-  
19 tions to the projects and management  
20 treatments.

21          “(B) SCHEDULE.—The Secretary shall—

22           “(i) not earlier than September 30,  
23 2018, issue the initial report under sub-  
24 paragraph (A); and

1 “(ii) not earlier than September 30,  
2 2024, issue the second report under that  
3 subparagraph.

4 “(e) TREE RETENTION.—The Secretary shall carry  
5 out projects under subsection (d) in a manner that maxi-  
6 mizes the retention of old-growth and large trees, as ap-  
7 propriate for the forest type, to the extent that the trees  
8 promote stands that are resilient to insects and disease.

9 “(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
10 is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section  
11 \$200,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2014 through 2024.

12 **“SEC. 603. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
14 (d), a project described in subsection (b) that is conducted  
15 in accordance with section 602(d) may be—

16 “(1) considered an action categorically excluded  
17 from the requirements of Public Law 91–190 (42  
18 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.); and

19 “(2) exempt from the special administrative re-  
20 view process under section 105.

21 “(b) COLLABORATIVE RESTORATION PROJECT.—

22 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A project referred to in  
23 subsection (a) is a project to carry out forest res-  
24 toration treatments that—

1           “(A) maximizes the retention of old-growth  
2           and large trees, as appropriate for the forest  
3           type, to the extent that the trees promote  
4           stands that are resilient to insects and disease;

5           “(B) considers the best available scientific  
6           information to maintain or restore the ecologi-  
7           cal integrity, including maintaining or restoring  
8           structure, function, composition, and  
9           connectivity; and

10          “(C) is developed and implemented  
11          through a collaborative process that—

12               “(i) includes multiple interested per-  
13               sons representing diverse interests; and

14               “(ii)(I) is transparent and nonexclu-  
15               sive; or

16               “(II) meets the requirements for a re-  
17               source advisory committee under sub-  
18               sections (e) through (f) of section 205 of  
19               the Secure Rural Schools and Community  
20               Self-Determination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C.  
21               7125).

22          “(2) INCLUSION.—A project under this sub-  
23          section may carry out part of a proposal that com-  
24          plies with the eligibility requirements of the Collabo-  
25          rative Forest Landscape Restoration Program under

1 section 4003(b) of the Omnibus Public Land Man-  
2 agement Act of 2009 (16 U.S.C. 7303(b)).

3 “(c) LIMITATIONS.—

4 “(1) PROJECT SIZE.—A project under this sec-  
5 tion may not exceed 3000 acres.

6 “(2) LOCATION.—A project under this section  
7 shall be limited to areas—

8 “(A) in the wildland-urban interface; or

9 “(B) Condition Classes 2 or 3 in Fire Re-  
10 gime Groups I, II, or III, outside the wildland-  
11 urban interface.

12 “(3) ROADS.—

13 “(A) PERMANENT ROADS.—

14 “(i) PROHIBITION ON ESTABLISH-  
15 MENT.—A project under this section shall  
16 not include the establishment of permanent  
17 roads.

18 “(ii) EXISTING ROADS.—The Sec-  
19 retary may carry out necessary mainte-  
20 nance and repairs on existing permanent  
21 roads for the purposes of this section.

22 “(B) TEMPORARY ROADS.—The Secretary  
23 shall decommission any temporary road con-  
24 structed under a project under this section not

1 later than 3 years after the date on which the  
2 project is completed.

3 “(d) EXCLUSIONS.—This section does not apply to—

4 “(1) a component of the National Wilderness  
5 Preservation System;

6 “(2) any Federal land on which, by Act of Con-  
7 gress or Presidential proclamation, the removal of  
8 vegetation is restricted or prohibited;

9 “(3) a congressionally designated wilderness  
10 study area; or

11 “(4) an area in which activities under sub-  
12 section (a) would be inconsistent with the applicable  
13 land and resource management plan.

14 “(e) FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS.—All projects  
15 and activities carried out under this section shall be con-  
16 sistent with the land and resource management plan es-  
17 tablished under section 6 of the Forest and Rangeland Re-  
18 newable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C.  
19 1604) for the unit of the National Forest System con-  
20 taining the projects and activities.

21 “(f) PUBLIC NOTICE AND SCOPING.—The Secretary  
22 shall conduct public notice and scoping for any project or  
23 action proposed in accordance with this section.

24 “(g) ACCOUNTABILITY.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall pre-  
2       pare an annual report on the use of categorical ex-  
3       clusions under this section that includes a descrip-  
4       tion of all acres (or other appropriate unit) treated  
5       through projects carried out under this section.

6           “(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 1 year after  
7       the date of enactment of this section, and each year  
8       thereafter, the Secretary shall submit the reports re-  
9       quired under paragraph (1) to—

10           “(A) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutri-  
11       tion, and Forestry of the Senate;

12           “(B) the Committee on Environment and  
13       Public Works of the Senate;

14           “(C) the Committee on Agriculture of the  
15       House of Representatives;

16           “(D) the Committee on Natural Resources  
17       of the House of Representatives; and

18           “(E) the Government Accountability Of-  
19       fice.”.

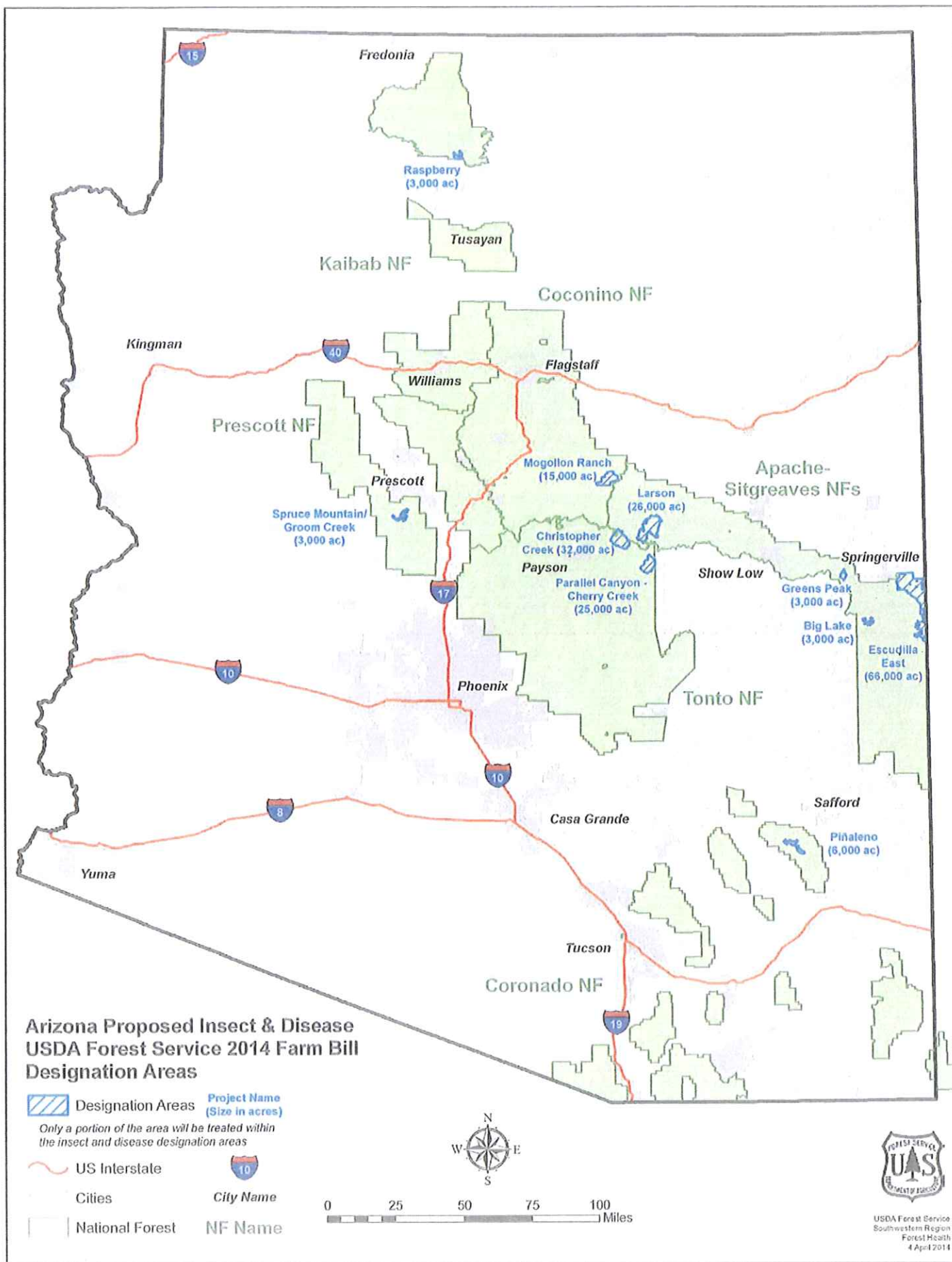
20 **SEC. 8205. STEWARDSHIP END RESULT CONTRACTING**  
21 **PROJECTS.**

22       (a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Healthy Forests  
23       Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591) (as amended  
24       by section 8204) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
25       lowing:



**Summary 2014 Farm Bill Section 602  
Arizona Insect and Disease Treatment Designation Areas**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>National Forest</b>	<b>Project Acres</b>
<b>Big Lake</b>	<b>Apache-Sitgreaves</b>	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Escudilla East</b>	<b>Apache-Sitgreaves</b>	<b>66,000</b>
<b>Greens Peak</b>	<b>Apache-Sitgreaves</b>	<b>2978</b>
<b>Larson</b>	<b>Apache-Sitgreaves</b>	<b>25,775</b>
<b>Mogollon Ranch</b>	<b>Coconino</b>	<b>15,000</b>
<b>Pinaleno</b>	<b>Coronado</b>	<b>6,000</b>
<b>Raspberry</b>	<b>Kaibab</b>	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Spruce Mountain/Groom Creek</b>	<b>Prescott</b>	<b>3,000</b>
<b>Christopher Creek</b>	<b>Tonto</b>	<b>32,358</b>
<b>Parallel Canyon-Cherry Creek</b>	<b>Tonto</b>	<b>25,075</b>
	<b>Total Acres</b>	<b>182,186</b>



Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest**

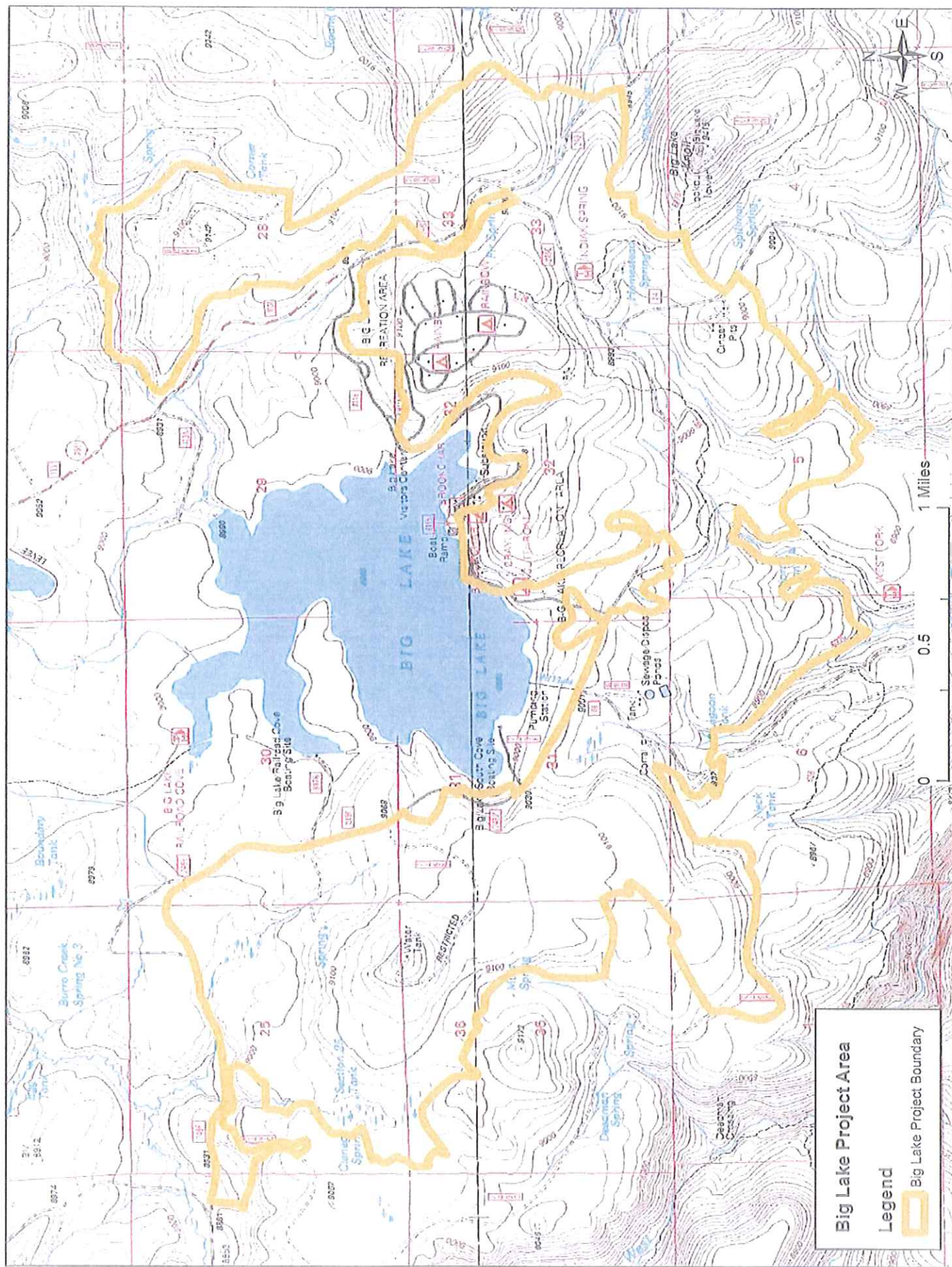
Project Name: **Big Lake**

Project Size: **3000 Acres**

Project Description: The Big Lake area would protect infrastructure including campground and surrounding recreation facilities from bark beetle infestation and potential wildfire as well as protecting the mixed conifer forest limited by the Wallow fire and associated limited Mexican Spotted Owl habitat.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary, and  
(2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service, and  
(3) in an area in which the risk of hazard trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastructure, health, or safety.





Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest**

Project Name: **Escudilla East**

Project Size: **66,000 Acres**

Project Description: The Escudilla East project is a true watershed restoration project that will also improve resiliency of forest stands to wildfire and insect and disease attack.

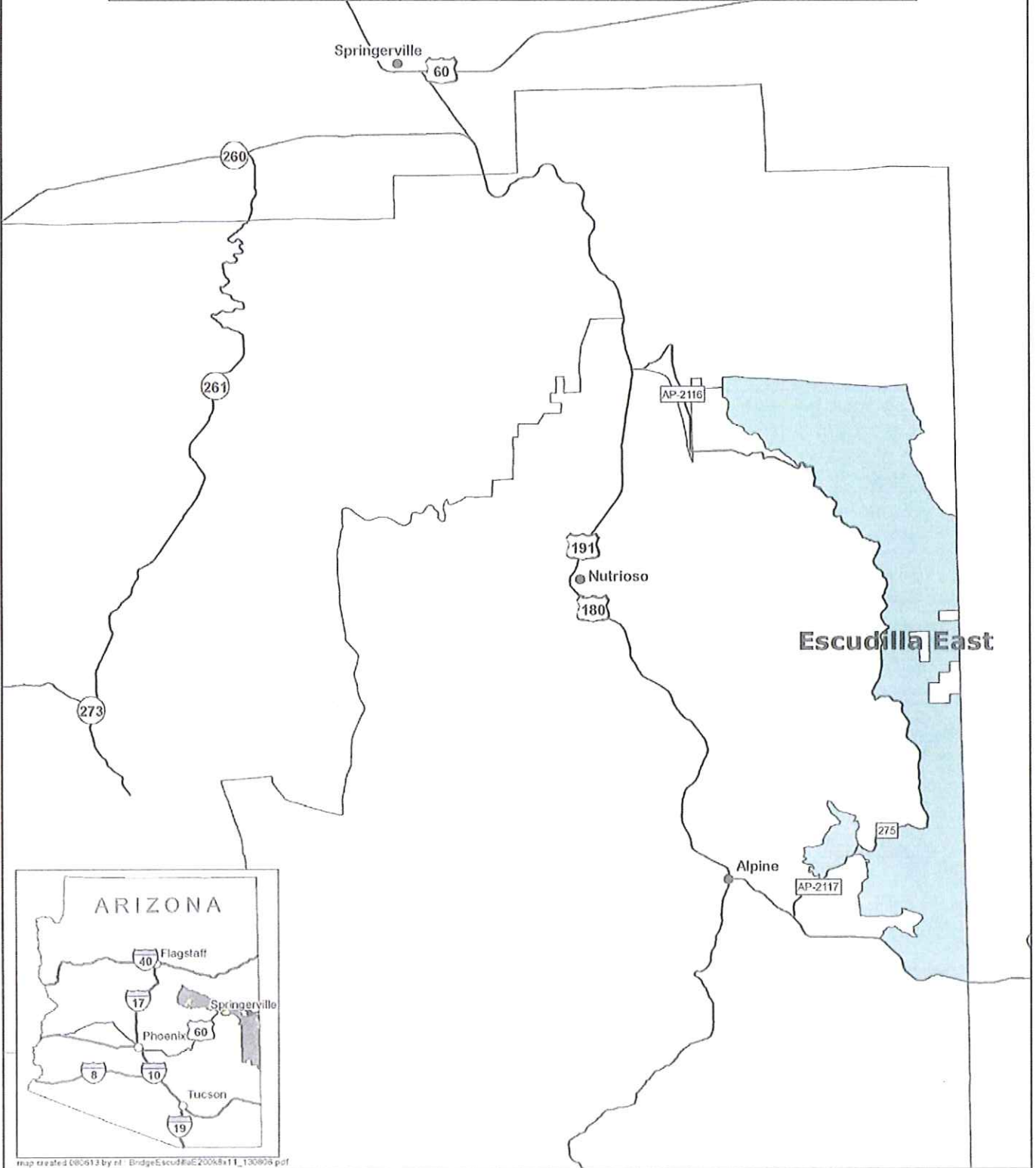
Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary; (2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service.

Escudilla East  
Bridge Project  
*Alpine Ranger District*  
*Aache-Sitgreaves National Forests*

0 1 2 4 6 8 10 Miles

W N E S

Bridge Project  
Non-FS Land  
Ranger District



Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

**Forest: Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest**

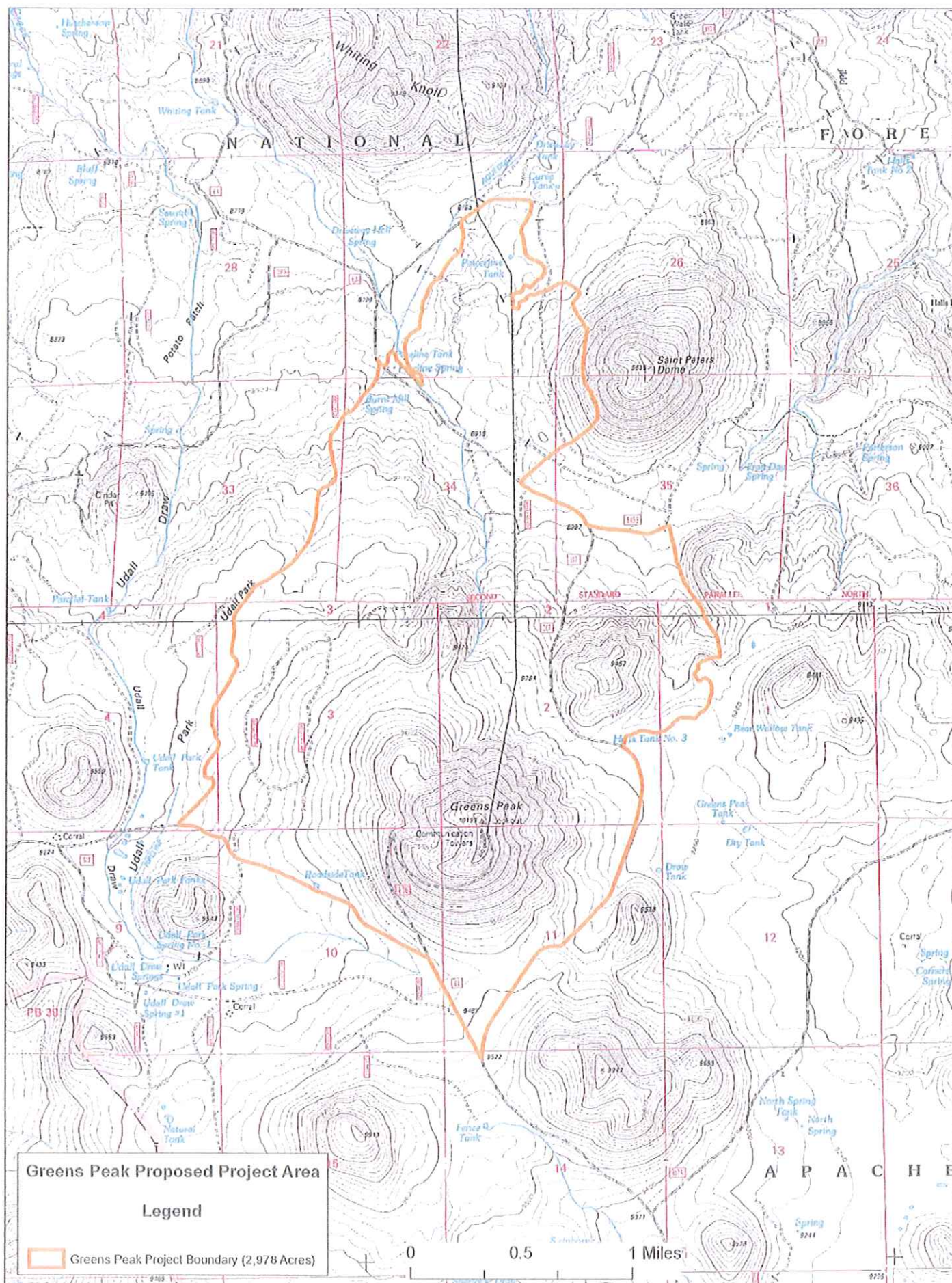
**Project Name: Greens Peak**

**Project Size: 2,978 Acres**

**Project Description:** The Greens Peak Wildland Urban Interface Fuels Reduction Project would protect communication site facilities by reducing predicted flame lengths and minimizing crown fire potential, reduce ground fuel loading to 10-15 tons of woody debris per acre and reduce ladder fuels, enhance fire resistance species such as aspen and improve resiliency of forest stands to insect and disease attack.

**Requirement Criteria:** (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary; (2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service.







Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest**

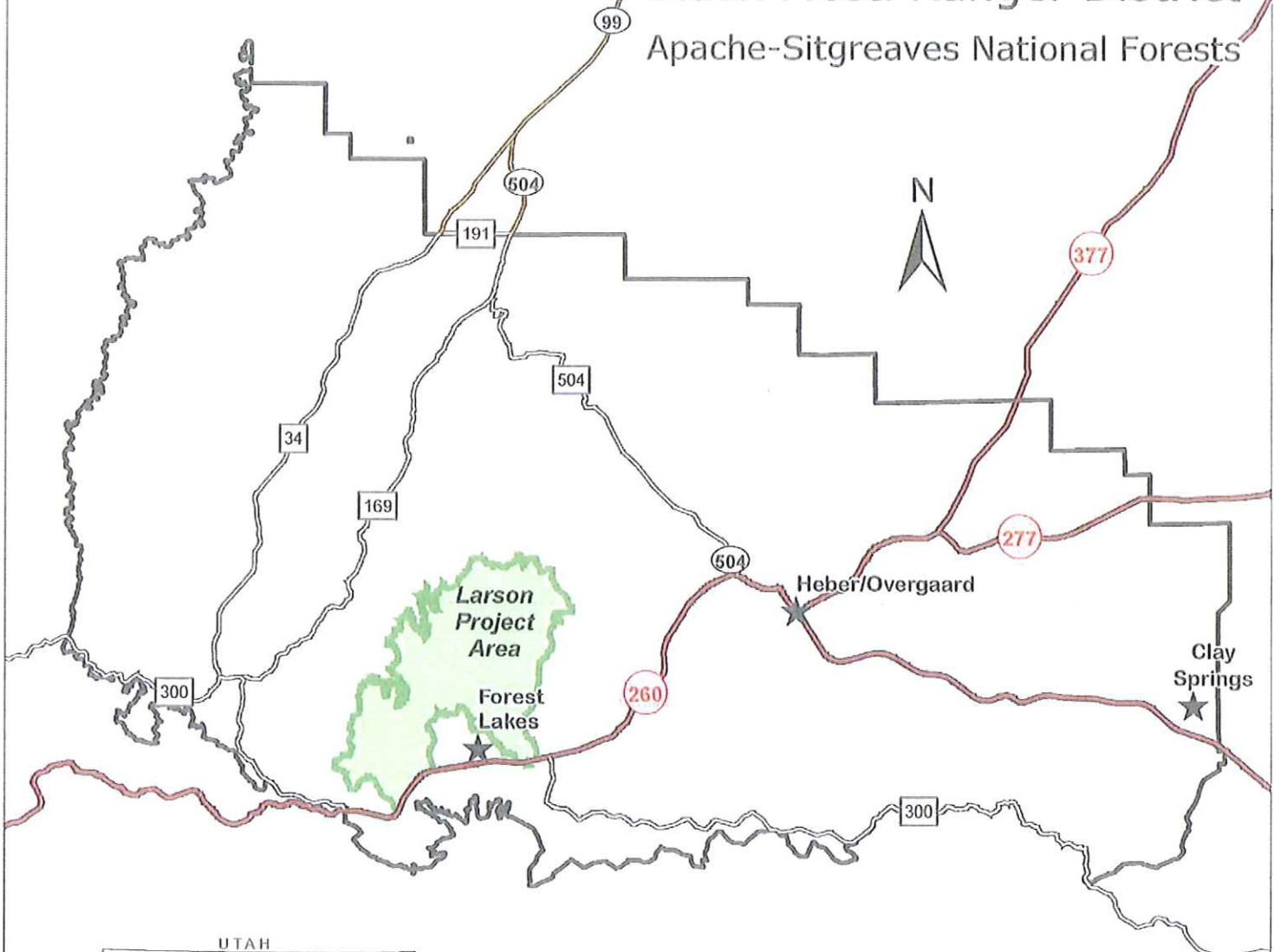
Project Name: **Larson**

Project Name: **25,775 Acres**

Project Description: The Larson project will reduce ground fuels in the Forest Lakes WUI, enhance watersheds by obliterating roads, improve resiliency of forest stands to insect and disease attack and wildfire. Protection of larger old growth trees would be provided through implementation of the large tree retention strategy.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary;  
(2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service.

# Vicinity Map Larson Analysis Area Black Mesa Ranger District Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests



Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Coconino National Forest**

Project Name: **Mogollon Ranch**

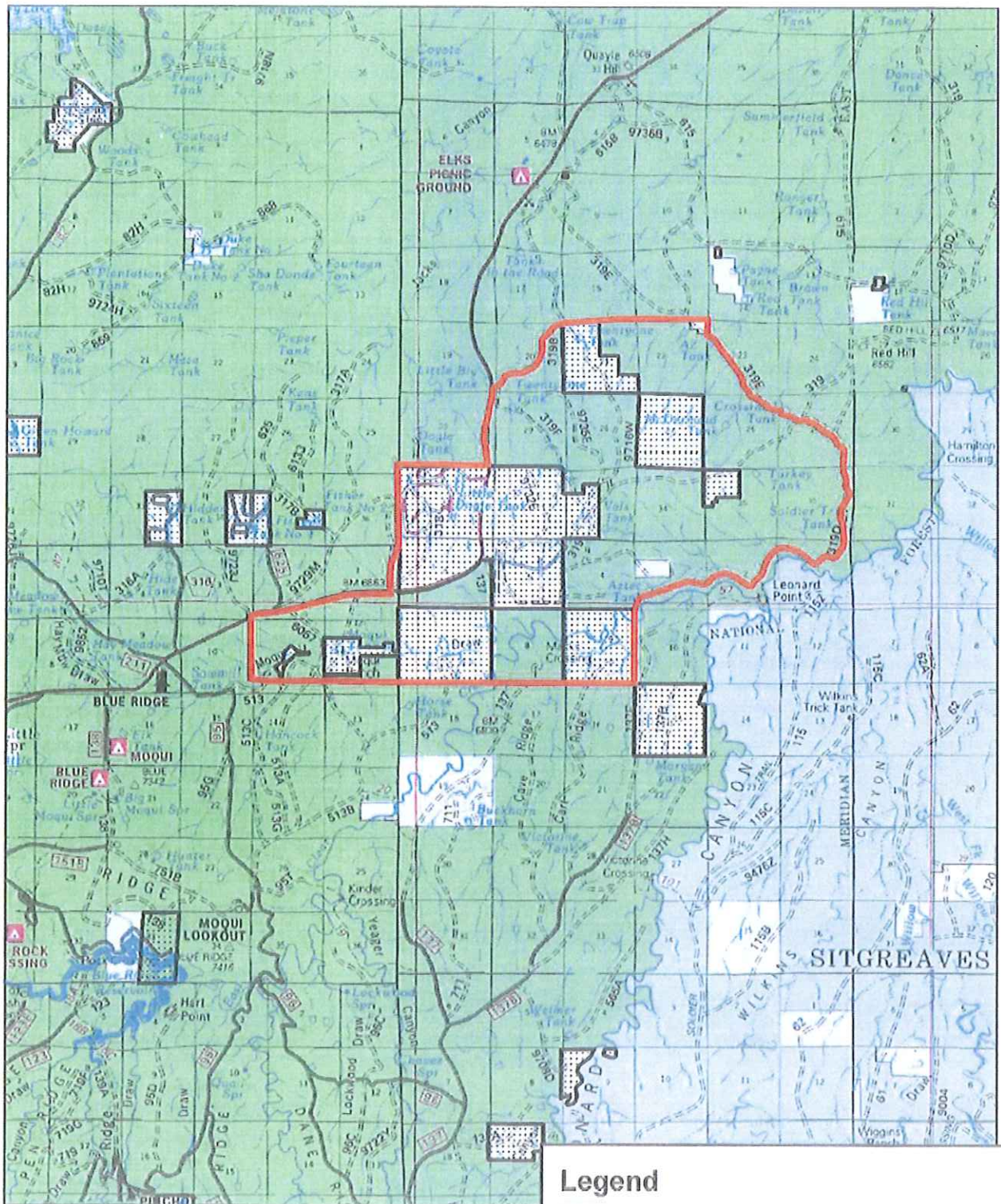
Project Size: **15,000 Acres**

Project Description: The Mogollon Ranch project area encompasses approximately 15,000 acres that includes approximately 5,630 acres of private land. The project area is predominately a transition zone from Ponderosa Pine to Pinion/Juniper habitats, most of which have had little or no treatment. In addition, the forest in this area experience high levels of stress due to environmental factors (e.g., lower moisture levels and higher temperatures) combined with low site index and overstocking, which exposes them to greater risk to insect and disease outbreaks.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary, and  
(2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service



# Mogollon Ranch Insect and Disease Project Coconino National Forest



0 1 2 Miles

1:120,000

## Legend

- Proposed insect and disease project area
- Private lands & subdivisions

4 April 2014

Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Coronado National Forest**

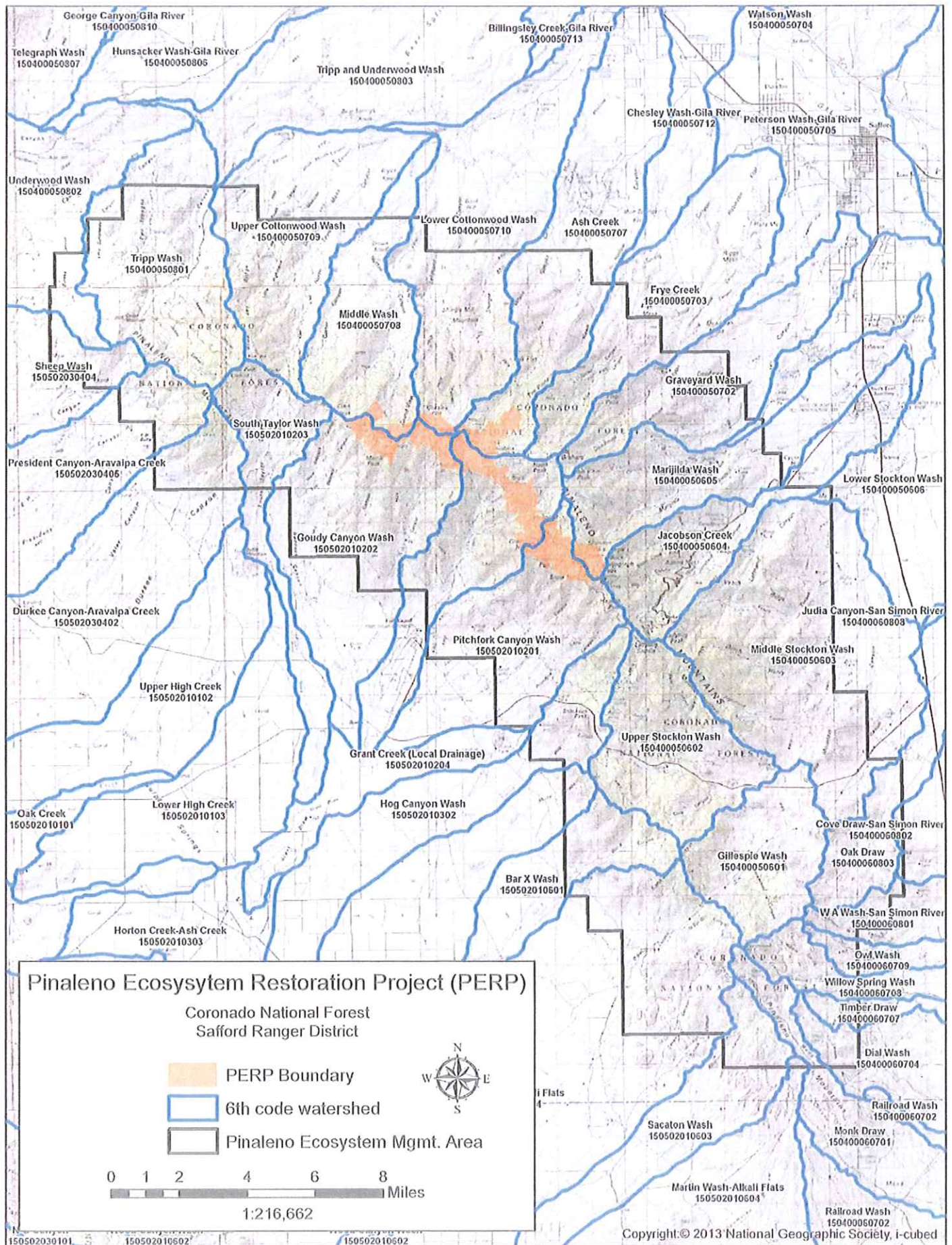
Project Name: **Pinaleño Ecosystem Restoration**

Project Acres: **6,000**

Project Description: The Pinaleno Ecosystem Restoration Project is in its second year of implementation under a Stewardship Agreement with the National Wild Turkey Federation which will treat the upper plateau of ten watersheds, three of which are eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers. These high elevation mixed-conifer forests are habitat to the endangered Mt. Graham Red Squirrel and the threatened Mexican Spotted Owl. The restoration goal is to reduce the risk of habitat loss due to severe wildfire and improve the forest health and resilience of the landscape. Current bark beetle activity threatens important old growth components of the forest. Into this complex mix there are wildland urban interface concerns from historic Old Columbine, Turkey Flat and the Mount Graham International Observatory. Likewise the mountain is recognized as an eligible Traditional Cultural Property of the Western Apache.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary, and  
(2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service





Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Kaibab National Forest**

Project Name: **Raspberry**

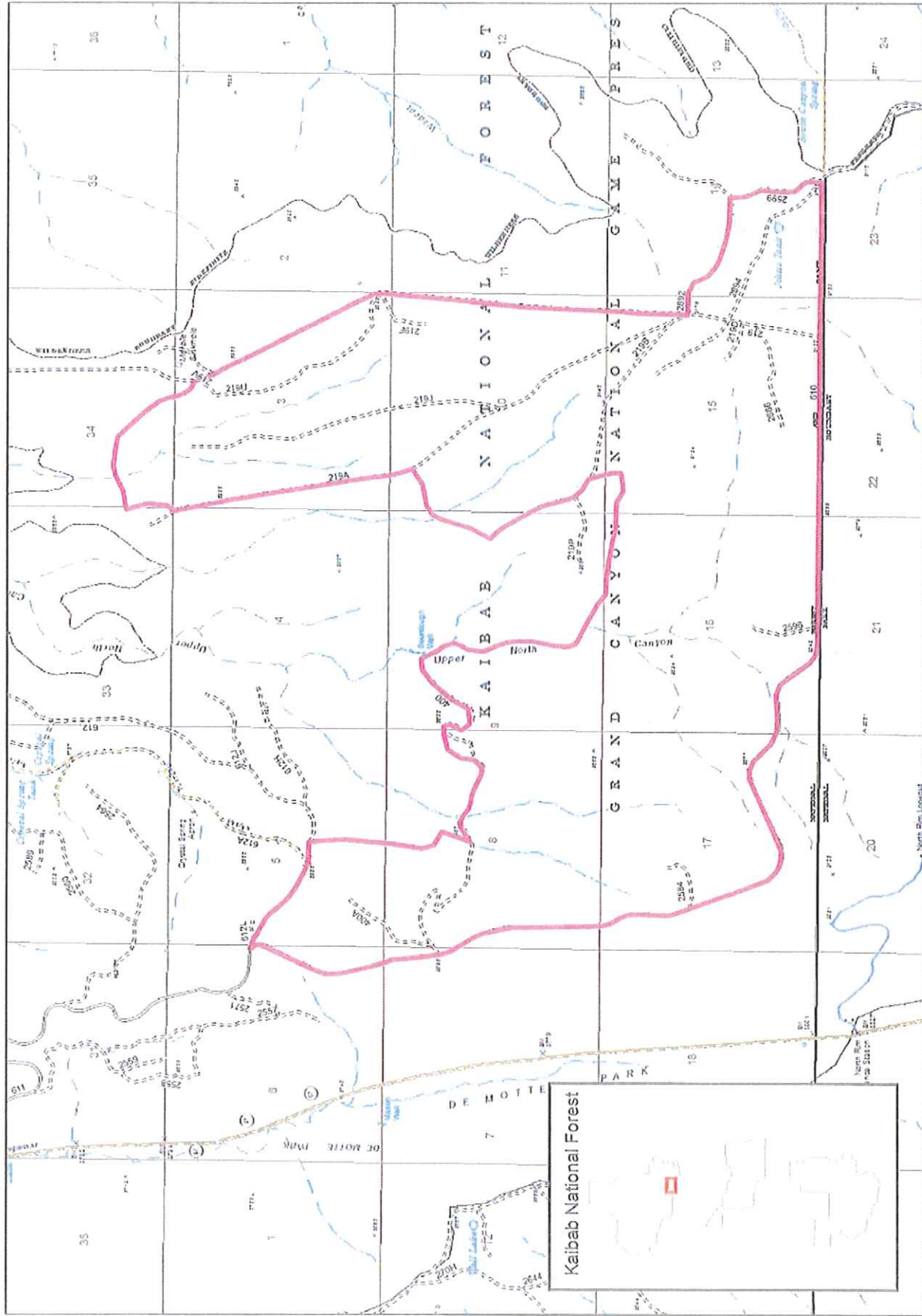
Project Size: **3000 Acres**

Project Description: This general area was identified initially as a priority for fuel reduction treatments during public / other agency collaboration in the 2009 Kaibab Forest Health Focus. This area is spruce/fir forest type between the Saddle Mtn Wilderness and the north rim Grand Canyon. It was identified as a priority due to proximity to / headwaters of North Canyon, a drainage in the wilderness area that has several important/unique resource values that need protection, including a T/E fish population. The project was put on the KNF 5 year restoration plan last year.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary, and (2) at risk of experiencing substantially increased tree mortality over the next 15 years due to insect or disease infestation, based on the most recent National Insect and Disease Risk Map published by the Forest Service.



# Raspberry Patch Project



Kaibab National Forest



Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Prescott National Forest**

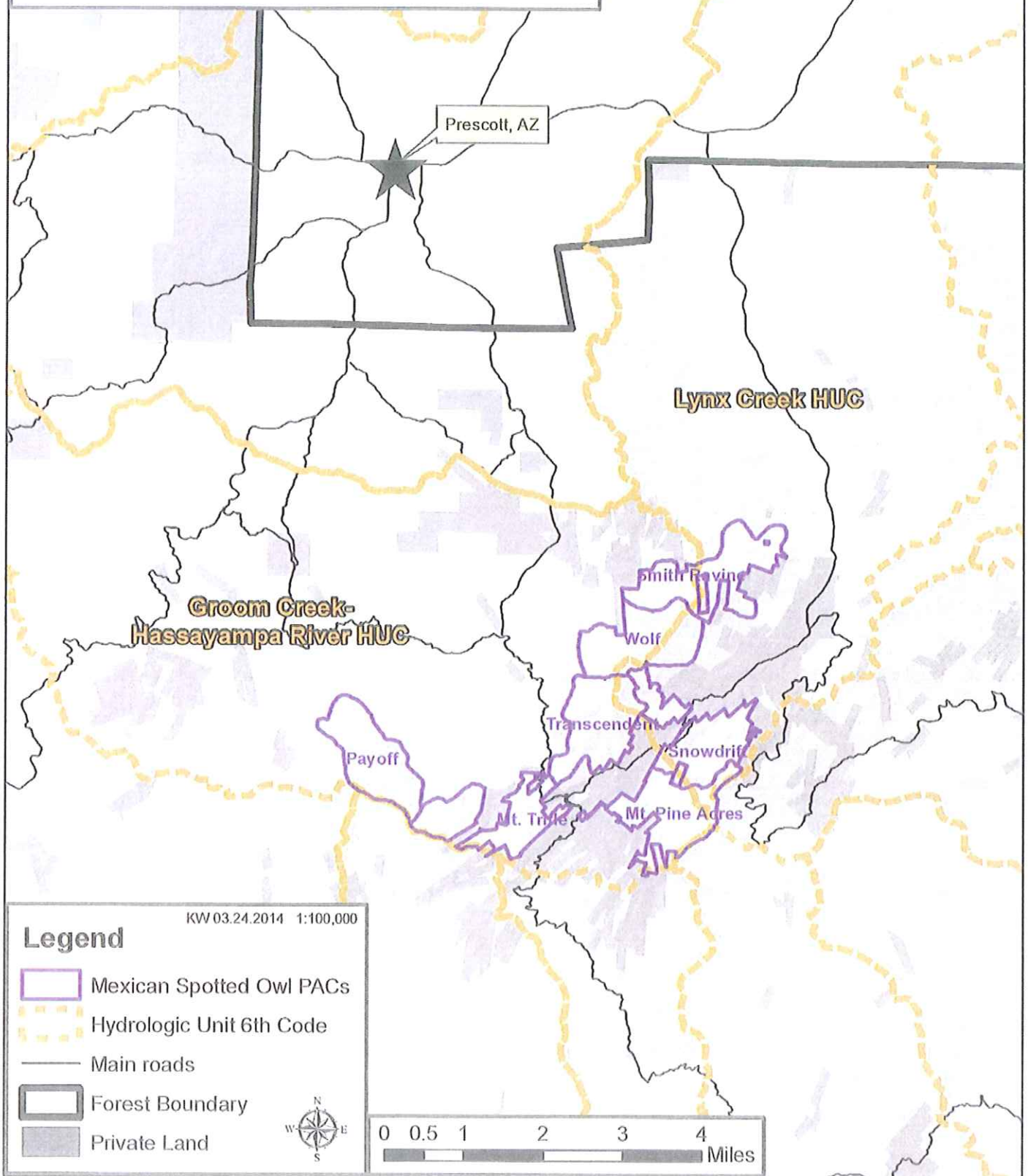
Project Name: **Spruce Mountain/Groom Creek**

Project Size: **3000 Acres**

Project Description: The Bradshaw Vegetation Management landscape area was identified as a Priority Landscape on the 2013 Prescott NF Five-Year Restoration Plan. Lynx Creek 6<sup>th</sup> Code HUC is a priority watershed on the Prescott NF and is scheduled for development of a Watershed Restoration Action Plan in FY15. There are seven Mexican Spotted Owl Protected Activity Centers situated within the landscape, all of which are located in the Wildland-Urban Interface immediately south of Prescott and directly adjacent to homes within the communities of Groom Creek, Spruce Mountain, and Walker. The Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission (PAWUIC) is an active partner with the Prescott National Forest in creating defensible space through vegetation treatments in areas directly adjacent to these communities. The area is also centrally located within the Prescott area Community Wildfire Protection Plan and increased tree mortality within this area poses a substantial risk to utility infrastructure, private property, and public health and safety. Treatments will improve resiliency of forest stands to wildfire and insect and disease attack.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary and (3) in an area in which the risk of hazard trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastructure, health, or safety.

Insect and Disease  
Priority Treatment Area  
Prescott NF, Bradshaw RD



Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Tonto National Forest**

Project Name: **Christopher Creek**

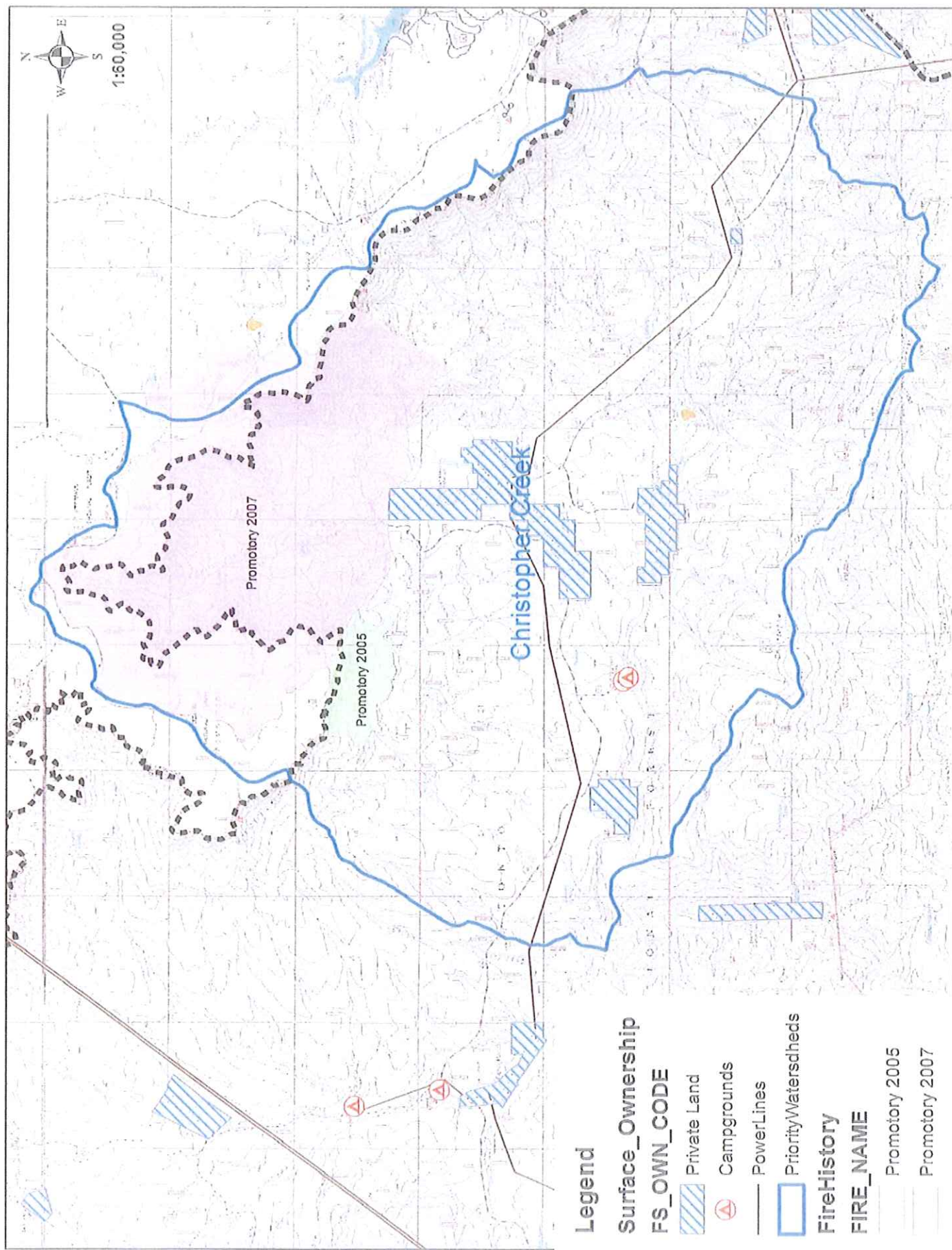
Project Size: **32,358 Acres**

Project Description: Christopher Creek is a primary watershed below the Mogollon Rim. There are several wildland urban interfaces contained within the watershed, with at least three communities and one developed campground. The area vegetation is characterized by Ponderosa pine overstories and thick, overgrown juniper understories. The shaded slopes transition into crowded mixed-conifer. Assessments show the watershed impaired and threatened by insect and disease. Secondary powerlines also exist within the watershed providing power to these communities.

The area has been a targeted landscape for recent fuels reduction work since 2009. Fuel breaks have been completed around the communities. The Woodchuck stewardship project is also being prepared for sale as part of the 4FRI program. The project combines service thinning and commercial sales. This is one of several projects being planned in the area. The watershed is part of the larger Christopher/Hunter Analysis Area which already has a completed NEPA (EA) document, allowing fuels reduction work. The progress of several projects that are planned in the watershed are dependent on future funding.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary.





Southwestern Region, Arizona.

Title VIII – Forestry, Subtitle C, Sec. 602 of the Farm Bill

Designation of treatment areas for Insects and Disease

Forest: **Tonto National Forest**

Project Name: **Parallel Canyon-Cherry Creek**

Project Size: **25,075 Acres**

Project Description: Parallel Canyon is a tributary to Cherry Creek, a major drainage feeding the Salt River. The 2012 Poco Fire burned through the watershed and totaled 11,936 acres. Part of fire burned at high intensity, leaving little behind. Other areas burned moderately, due in part, to an earlier fire that was used to treat or manage the area. Scorched trees are more vulnerable to insects. The area was already one of the higher rated watersheds affected by insect and disease before the wildfire. Bark beetles and dwarf mistletoe are prevalent. Concerns are water quality, erosion control, and how the watershed will respond to the burn.

The vegetation is predominately Pine-oak with edges moving into either pinyon-juniper or oak chaparral which burns extremely hot and fast. Ranches and sparsely scattered residents populate the surrounding area.

Treatments will include removing hazard (dead & dying ) trees along interior roads and the powerlines. Thinning of larger landscape-based blocks will help to compartmentalize the continuous fuels. A plan and corresponding NEPA (CE) has been begun for a prescribed burn plan.

Requirement Criteria: (1) experiencing declining forest health, based on annual forest health surveys conducted by the Secretary, and (3) in an area in which the risk of hazard trees poses an imminent risk to public infrastructure, health, or safety.



